



Helping PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES and the PLANET

# FINDING FRIENDS FOR CHANGE ACTION KIT



YOU'RE ABOUT TO ORGANIZE A SERVICE PROJECT AND  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR WORLD – WAY TO GO!

Your service project is a great way to include your friends, family, and neighbors so that they can help you make an even bigger difference in your community!

This action kit, created by Disney's Friends for Change and YSA, will give you tips on how to find old and new "Friends For Change" for your service project!



## 5 WAYS TO FIND FRIENDS FOR CHANGE

1

### FIGURE OUT WHAT'S YOUR PITCH?

Think about what inspired you to become a "Friend for Change," and how this could help you to get others to join you.

- What are your goals for your project? How might you get others to care about them as much as you do? Why do you want to organize a service project?
- Know your "Friends": Think about your friends and how you can connect your project to things that they care about, too!
- What can I do to help: Put together a list of all the tasks that you will want others to take on, and plan to share this list with your "Friends". Make sure each task sounds manageable, exciting, and fun to do!
- Create a timeline: Your new "Friends" will want to know what you will expect from them. Be sure they understand how much time the task might take, when it will start, and when it will end.

2

### ASK FRIENDS TO BUILD YOUR TEAM

Now it's time to find others to help you make an even bigger difference! Invite your friends, classmates, teammates, student groups, family, and neighbors to join with you on your team.

- The More the Merrier: Don't limit the number of youth or adults you recruit for your project. Having a lot of volunteers motivates others to join your cause!
- Light THEIR Spark: Match up the interests, skills, and passions of your friends for change with what you will need for your project.
- Off to a good start: The sooner you recruit your team, the more help you will have in designing, shaping, and doing your project.

#### TIP:

To recruit and let others know you are looking for their help for your project, contact local radio and television stations and arrange for a spot in their volunteer or community events section.





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## ENCOURAGE EFFECTIVE TEAMWORK

Now that you have recruited all of your volunteers, it is time to organize everyone into small groups and assign projects and tasks.

- Meet with all of your volunteers to discuss your event and everything that they, and other members of your team, will be doing.
- If you are planning a big event, recruit even more friends and ask some to be team captains who will focus on managing volunteers, arranging logistics, getting publicity, and gathering resources for your project. Assign tasks to your “Friends” based on their experience and interests.
- Help everyone on your team understand how important their own piece is to the whole project!



### TIP:

Present your volunteers with “Friends For Change” certificates or small gifts to thank them and let them know how much you appreciate all of their hard work with you!



## 5

**BUILD PARTNERSHIPS**

Your service project is a great opportunity for you to work with other families, youth groups, neighbors, and local organizations or businesses. What if you don't want to lead the project yourself? Don't worry – there are **MANY** ways to be a Friend for Change. You can still add your spark to help come up with the ideas, plan, create, and carry out the project!

- The best partnerships are mutually helpful, and everyone shares the same goals and purposes.
- Find other kids, families, community groups, and business that share your goals, and ask them to join with you in recruiting volunteers, gathering supplies, or promoting your event.
- Stay in touch! Communicate often with your partners. Keep everyone up-to-date about the progress of your project, by setting up regular planning meetings or by establishing a regular check-in time along the way.
- Visit [www.YSA.org/partners](http://www.YSA.org/partners) to learn more about connecting with other schools, young people, organizations, and businesses.

We know you're working hard to make a positive lasting change in your world! Thanks for all you do and for inspiring others to take action, too!

**NOTES AND  
PROJECT IDEAS**